

Docket No. F-8110

Ser. No. 10/783,447

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A vehicular bearing apparatus comprising:

a rolling bearing having an outer ring and an inner ring;

a support member fixing said outer ring to a vehicle body;

a rotating member disposed to rotate with said inner ring and relative to the vehicle body;

a deformable material portion deformed to fix at least a portion of said inner ring in place and to secure said rotating member to rotate with said inner ring;

said deformable material portion is formed of a steel material having a percentage of carbon content adjusted to be in a range of about 0.50% to about 1.10% by weight and a percentage of sulfur content adjusted to be about 0.015% by weight or less.

10. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein a steel type of the steel material is one selected from among JIS

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S53C to S58C including about 0.50% by weight to about 0.61% by weight carbon, SAE 1055 to 1095 including about 0.50% by weight to about 1.03% by weight carbon, SUJ1 to SUJ5 including about 0.95% by weight to about 1.10% by weight carbon.

11. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said deformable material portion is formed integrally with said rotating member.

12. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said rotating member is a hub wheel.

13. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said deformable material portion is a portion of a rotating shaft.

14. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said rotating member is a wheel hub and said rotating shaft extends through a center bore of said hub wheel.

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15. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 9 wherein said deformable material portion is formed integrally with said rotating member.

16. (Currently Amended) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim [[115]] 15 wherein said rotating member is a hub wheel.

17. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 9 wherein said deformable material portion is a portion of a rotating shaft.

18. (Previously Presented) The vehicular bearing apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said rotating member is a wheel hub and said rotating shaft extends through a center bore of said hub wheel.